

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1881.

Announcements To-day.

Academy of Music—Cameo.
Abbey's Park Theatre—Mother-in-Law.
Aquarium—West and Broadway, Ninth.
Bethel Chapel—West and Broadway.
Bethel's Theatre—Suite of the King.
Emmett's Music Room—Broadway and 10th.
Bethel's Theatre—The Passing Pagoda.
Grand Opera House—Broadway.
Globe Theatre—Wise Men of Zion.
Hannay's Little Star—Circus.
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Hudson Square Theatre—Broadway.
New Theatres—Compton—The Stage.
New York Palace—Wise Men of Zion.
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Polo Theatre—Broadway.
Terry's Palace—Variety, Knicker.
The Casino—Palace.
Union Square—Theatre of the Knights of Columbus.
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Guiteau's Trial.

DR. DIAMOND of Auburn, another expert who, though summoned by the defense, testified for the prosecution, said in the trial yesterday that he thought GUITEAU was insane, but did not think he was following insanity. "The prisoner's actions in court were consistent with his nature under the circumstances," GUITEAU asked the witness whether if the Lord could inspire a man two thousand years ago he could not do it today, and the witness replied in the affirmative.

Mr. STRAW, the witness who testified that GUITEAU told him eight or nine years ago that he would imitate Wm. H. Brown, was recalled by Mr. SCOTTING, who asked him if he had not been indicted in New Jersey for perjury. The witness said yes, but the jury acquitted him. GUITEAU again denounced this witness violently, declaring his story false. GUITEAU was inclined to be querulous, and became another attack on his counsel. He wanted to read some of his letters in court, and said he had one from Dr. SPRINGER who wrote that he had received over two hundred letters of congratulation and commendation for his testimony, and only two anonymous threats and two letters from him.

The business done in the trial yesterday was not of much account.

The New Cabinet.

The appointment of Mr. T. O. HOWE as Postmaster-General may be ascribed to Mr. CONKLIN's well-known friendship for him, and also to the fact that he has long been and still is a pronounced third-termer. He made a distinct effort of deferring Grantism, with all that the name implies, in an extraordinary paper in the *North American Review*, filled with his crooked notions, and with the most absurd defense of the third-term theory.

In the Senate, Mr. HOWE was foremost among the devoted followers of Mr. CONKLIN. Indeed, that devotion may be said to have been the most distinguishing feature of his Senatorial career, which in other respects never rose above mediocrity. Mr. HOWE and Mr. FARNUM DIXIE stood on about the same level in the Senate. Both supposed themselves to be leaders, and that harmless delusion was rather encouraged by Mr. COXING, who thus secured their unquestioning support whenever a measure of party importance was to be considered.

The civil service reformers will not find much welcome in the Post Office Department. Mr. HOWE, however, concealed his scorn for this class of politicians. He believes in the use of patronage for the sake of the party and of the administration, and he will illustrate his faith by his works, with perfect indifference to their opinions.

Thus far the Cabinet appointments are decidedly Stewartian. Their whole needs are likely to be proclaimed by them, they take their place in the witness stand. In ordinary cases the fact that the prisoner owed the witness money would induce the jury to weigh the witness's testimony with care, as coming from one naturally傾uenced against the prisoner. It is not unlikely that GUITEAU has thought of this, and so he prefers their testimony by acknowledging his indebtedness.

We have looked through the five volumes with interest, sometimes reaching amazement. We have not read them through; no human being except the reader has, and no other human being will ever. Viewed in a large way, the work is a curious study. Here are three thousand pages, in which a history and a description of the Paris Fair are attempted by different writers, some of them competent, some of them incompetent, the whole edited by an Arizona politician and published at the expense of the nation.

There is an old English adage that "a great Christmas makes a fat graveyard." Like other old saws, it is not perfect by any means, but still has an uncomfortable basis.

Unless the weather changes pretty soon we shall have an opportunity to see whether the adage will hold good this season.

When keroseen was introduced there were many fears in regard to its use, on account of its liability to explode under certain conditions, and particularly when a considerable quantity of it is ignited through the medium of vapor brought into contact with fire. Yet in a few years thousands of people were using this fear as an excuse for forbidding the use of kerosene.

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As far as possible these committees seem to be organized by the Speaker first of all in the interest of corruption; and there is reason for the opinion that SIR ROBERT BROWN is more than a little anxious that if the death penalty is invoked in the latter case, it is far more urgently demanded in the former, where a milder punishment would have little or no effect. DR. E. C. S. GUNN does not name GUITEAU, but plainly has it in mind when he insists that almost all victims of cerebral derangement should be perpetually imprisoned. DR. G. M. BOARD says that "if GUITEAU had shot a bootblack instead of a President, the facts of his life would probably compel many if not the

majority of experts to declare him insane." He also affirms that "if there be such a disease as insanity, then GUITEAU is and was insane, and has been so for years, and the assassination of the President was not needed to make the diagnosis sure."

We are further told that cunning and premeditation, and even preparations for escape, instead of being disproofs, may be, when taken in connection with other phenomena, actual symptoms of certain forms of insanity. It is the excessive cunning of the insane, and their prolonged premeditation of crime, that make it so difficult to deal with them, and render their confinement in asylums absolutely necessary. We are referred to the case of a patient who some time since escaped from an asylum, and who successfully guarded against detection by an ingenious, elaborate, and long-pondered plan. Nevertheless, the patient was insane then, and is insane now. The writer goes on to urge that same intervals, of however long duration, cannot be regarded as impeaching the insanity of a patient. The symptoms of insanity, as we are told, rise and fall like the tides, though not of course with regularity, but in obedience to the force of varying causes. At times, and even for long periods, there will be "margins of responsibility which at any moment may be overwheeled and the will put utterly out of sight by an unexpected flood of insane impulses."

To the practical question what shall be done with irresponsible criminals lunatics, DR. BOARD says that the simplest and clearest answer is "Shut or hang them," as we would do with a mad dog or a wild bull. But he submits that, without reference to sentiment or ideas of duty, or to any philosophical reasoning, it is practically impossible for a civilized nation to deliberately inflict the highest punishment provided for responsible crime on irresponsible lunatics. He insists that to do this we ourselves must become barbarians, and that we should destroy our civilization in the very effort to save it. "We might hang them, as other irresponsible criminals are hanged, either through inability of the Court to understand the special phase of life in sanity, or in obedience to the commands of the people; but a reaction on the part of society and of justice would follow. Thirty days we mourned for years we should mourn for years were we to hang his assassin after having proof of his irresponsibility."

A combined odor of guano and saltpetre rises from the international negotiations about Peru, and renders them not the most fragrant or creditable part of our current diplomacy.

It is significant to find the *North German Gazette* not only insisting that the lack of dutiful in the Reichstag is interpreted throughout Europe as a token of the decay of German unity, but defining on its own part the belief that the German Prince who sold the Empire to Prussia, toward the east of this American continent, is in no sense "a crank," although there is a sense in which the objective crank may be employed in describing the German Prince, but not in the spirit of Dr. DODGE.

Dr. DODGE, however, always speaks of the German Prince as a crank in the sense of the slang of the day. There is nothing abnormal about his intellect. There is nothing really abnormal about any part of him, except his true goodness; and that should only be spoken of with admiration and reverence.

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Government Literature for the Holidays.

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But why is it thought of such vital importance to belong to one or another of these committees? And why is it that the managers of big corporations, like the Pacific railroad, for instance, know beforehand the names of those who are to serve on committees affecting their interests, when they are still kept a secret from the members of the House?

Speaker KEEFER finds it very convenient in making up the committees, to recognize the parties in the House of Representatives known as the Greenback party and the Readjuster party. Following the custom, he gives the control of each committee to the *Standard* party making the majorities out of unquestionable Republicans; but he divides the minorities among Democrats, Greenbackers, and Readjusters. The last two parties are friendly to the Republicans, of course the party in the minority does not receive its usual representation on the committees; but is it of very great consequence all?

I desire, firmly and emphatically, that the Rule can be reached by the air path in balloons. This method will be a change from the dangers and hardships common to ships and sledges to dangers of a far less degree without the hardships. It has been said that the other day a dozen of those daring patriots, with masts, attack one man, shoot him down, and batter his head with the butts of their muskets for the same reason. Gallant fellows! They don't like the Irish, but they think my manhood in the thunders of darkness and oak-bound secret organizations the cause of society today. But the Bishop of Rochester can't expect all the people of Ireland to baffle falls to the Seventh Commandment. Then shall not we have the Catholic church, not the Irish, but the Irish Catholics. They don't like the men, but they think my manhood in the thunders of darkness and oak-bound secret organizations the cause of society today. 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